

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-21, 23-28, 30-36 and 38 are now pending in the application. Claims 1-9, 11, 13-21, 23-27, 30, 32-35, and 38 stand rejected. Claims 10, 22, 29 and 37 have been cancelled. Claims 12, 28, 31 and 36 are objected to. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

SPECIFICATION

Minor amendments have been made to Paragraph [0007], as set forth above, to corrects minor typographical errors. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been added.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

1. Claims 1-4, 6, 13-16, 18, 24-27 and 32-35 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Benes (U.S. Pat. No. 5,161,874). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. Regarding Claims 1-4 and 6, Claim 1 had been amended, as set forth above, to recited, "A lighting system, comprising: an illumination device adapted to direct light toward a area to be illuminated; a light source located remotely from the illumination device and adapted to generate the light; and a light guide adapted to channel the light generated from the light source to the illumination device, wherein the light guide is a structural component of the system for supporting the illumination device a distance away from the light source."

Applicant respectfully submits that Benes does not describe, show or suggest a lighting system that includes the limitation recited in amended Claim 1. For example, Benes does not describe show or suggest a lighting system including a light guide adapted to channel light generated from a light source to an illumination device, wherein the light guide is a structural component of the system for supporting the illumination device a distance away from the light source.

Rather, Benes describes, and clearly illustrates in Figure 1, a remote illumination system A including a remote illumination module B, an optical light pipe C comprised of a bundle of optical fibers and a distribution head D. The light pipe C exits a housing 10 through a conduit 40 that provides support to the distribution head D. Thus, Benes does not describe, show or suggest a lighting system that includes a structural member that supports an illumination device away from a light source and also functions as a light guide to channel the light from the light source to the illumination device, but rather has optical fibers that channel light inside of a conduit that supports a distribution head.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claim 1 is patentable over Benes.

Claims 2-4 and 6 depend from amended Claim 1. Therefore, when the recitations of Claims 2-4 and 6 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 1, Applicant submits that Claims 2-4 and 6 are likewise patentable over Benes.

B. Regarding Claims 13-16 and 18, Claim 13 has been amended, as set forth above, to include limitations similar to the limitations recited in amended Claim 1. Therefore, in accordance with the remarks set forth above with respect to amended Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claim 13 is also patentable over Benes.

Claims 14-16 and 18 depend from amended Claim 13. Therefore, when the recitations of Claims 14-16 and 18 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 13, Applicant submits that Claims 14-16 and 18 are likewise patentable over Benes.

C. Regarding Claims 24-27 and 32, Claim 24 has been amended, as set forth above, to include limitations similar to the limitations recited in amended Claim 1. Therefore, in accordance with the remarks set forth above with respect to amended Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claim 24 is also patentable over Benes.

Claims 25-27 and 32 depend from amended Claim 24. Therefore, when the recitations of Claims 25-27 and 32 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 24, Applicant submits that Claims 25-27 and 32 are likewise patentable over Benes.

D. Regarding Claims 33-35, Claim 33 has been amended, as set forth above, to include limitations similar to the limitations recited in amended Claim 1. Therefore, in accordance with the remarks set forth above with respect to amended Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claim 33 is also patentable over Benes.

Claims 34 and 35 depend from amended Claim 33. Therefore, when the recitations of Claims 34 and 35 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 33, Applicant submits that Claims 34 and 35 are likewise patentable over Benes.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the §102 rejections of Claims 1-4, 6, 13-16, 18, 24-27 and 32-35 be withdrawn.

2. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20 and 24-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Rizkin et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5, 629, 996). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. Regarding Claims 1, 3, 4, 6 and 8, Claim 1 has been amended as set forth above. Applicant respectfully submits that Rizkin et al. does not describe, show or suggest a lighting system that includes the limitation recited in amended Claim 1. For example, Rizkin et al. does not describe show or suggest a lighting system including a light guide adapted to channel light generated from a light source to an illumination device, wherein the light guide is a structural component of the system for supporting the illumination device a distance away from the light source.

Rather Rizkin et al. describes and clearly illustrates in Figure 1 a lighting system including an illuminator 10 which receives electrical power from power line 20. The second major component is light delivery system 30 which is connected to illuminator 10. Light delivery system 30 can be an optical fiber bundle. The third major component

is the five beamformers 40. Beamformers 40 are connected to light delivery system 30 and are mounted on the horizontal lighting bar 50. Applicant respectfully submits that Figure 1 clearly illustrate that the beamformers 40 are supports by vertical structure and the optical fiber bundle 30 is connected along the side of the vertical structure. Thus, Rizkin et al. does not describe, show or suggest a lighting system that includes a structural member that supports an illumination device away from a light source and also functions as a light guide to channel the light from the light source to the illumination device, but rather describe and illustrates optical fibers attached to the side of a vertical support structure that supports beamformers above an illuminator.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claim 1 is patentable over Rizkin et al.

Claims 3, 4, 6 and 8 depend from amended Claim 1. Therefore, when the recitations of Claims 3, 4, 6 and 8 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 1, Applicant submits that Claims 3, 4, 6 and 8 are likewise patentable over Rizkin et al.

B. Regarding Claims 13, 15, 16, 18 and 20, Claim 13 has been amended, as set forth above, to include limitations similar to the limitations recited in amended Claim 1. Therefore, in accordance with the remarks set forth above with respect to amended Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claim 13 is also patentable over Rizkin et al.

Claims 15, 16, 18 and 20 depend from amended Claim 13. Therefore, when the recitations of Claims 15, 16, 18 and 20 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 13, Applicant submits that Claims 15, 16, 18 and 20 are likewise patentable over Rizkin et al.

C. Regarding Claims 24-27, Claim 24 has been amended, as set forth above, to include limitations similar to the limitations recited in amended Claim 1. Therefore, in accordance with the remarks set forth above with respect to amended Claim 1,

Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claim 24 is also patentable over Rizkin et al.

Claims 25-27 depend from amended Claim 24. Therefore, when the recitations of Claims 25-27 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 24, Applicant submits that Claims 25-27 are likewise patentable over Rizkin et al.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the §102 rejections of Claims , 3, 4, 6, 8, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20 and 24-27 be withdrawn.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

1. Claims 5, 7, 17 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Benes (U.S. Pat. No. 5,161,874) or Rizkin et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,629,996) in view of Parker (U.S. Pat. No. 6,185,356). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. Regarding Claims 5 and 7, Claims 5 and 7 depend from amended Claim 1, which has been submitted to be patentable over the cited references. Therefore, when the recitations of Claims 5 and 7 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 1, Applicant submits that Claims 5 and 7 are patentable over Benes or Rizkin et al. in view of Parker.

B. Regarding Claims 17 and 19, Claims 17 and 19 depend from amended Claim 13, which has been submitted to be patentable over the cited references. Therefore, when the recitations of Claims 17 and 19 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 13, Applicant submits that Claims 17 and 19 are patentable over Benes or Rizkin et al. in view of Parker.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the §103 rejections of Claims 5, 7, 17 and 19 be withdrawn.

2. Claims 9 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Benes (U.S. Pat. No. 5,161,874) or Rizkin et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,629,996) in view of Hoffmann (U.S. Pat. No. 6,62,729). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. Regarding Claim 9, Claim 9 depends from amended Claim 1, which has been submitted to be patentable over the cited references. Therefore, when the recitations of Claim 9 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 1, Applicant submits that Claim 9 is patentable over Benes or Rizkin et al. in view of Hoffmann.

B. Regarding Claim 21, Claim 21 depends from amended Claim 13, which has been submitted to be patentable over the cited references. Therefore, when the recitations of Claim 21 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 13, Applicant submits that Claim 21 is patentable over Benes or Rizkin et al. in view of Hoffmann.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the §103 rejections of Claims 9 and 21 be withdrawn.

3. Claims 11, 23, 30 and 38 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Benes (U.S. Pat. No. 5,161,874) in view of Nath (U.S. Pat. No. 5,412,750). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. Regarding Claim 11, Claim 11 depends from amended Claim 1, which has been submitted to be patentable over the cited references. Therefore, when the recitations of Claim 11 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 1, Applicant submits that Claim 11 is patentable over Benes in view of Nath.

B. Regarding Claim 23, Claim 23 depends from amended Claim 13, which has been submitted to be patentable over the cited references. Therefore, when the recitations of Claim 23 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 13, Applicant submits that Claim 23 is patentable over Benes in view of Nath.

C. Regarding Claim 30, Claim 30 depends from amended Claim 24, which has been submitted to be patentable over the cited references. Therefore, when the recitations of Claim 30 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 24, Applicant submits that Claim 30 is patentable over Benes in view of Nath.

D. Regarding Claim 38, Claim 38 depends from amended Claim 33, which has been submitted to be patentable over the cited references. Therefore, when the recitations of Claim 38 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 33, Applicant submits that Claim 38 is patentable over Benes in view of Nath.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the §103 rejections of Claims 11, 23, 30 and 38 be withdrawn.

4. Claims 11 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rizkin et al (U.S. Pat. No. 5,629,996) in view of Nath (U.S. Pat. No. 5,412,750). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A. Regarding Claim 11, Claim 11 depends from amended Claim 1, which has been submitted to be patentable over the cited references. Therefore, when the recitations of Claim 11 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 1, Applicant submits that Claim 11 is patentable over Rizkin et al. in view of Nath.

B. Regarding Claim 23, Claim 23 depends from amended Claim 13, which has been submitted to be patentable over the cited references. Therefore, when the recitations of Claim 23 are considered in combination with the recitations of amended Claim 13, Applicant submits that Claim 23 is patentable over Rizkin et al. in view of Nath.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the §103 rejections of Claims 11 and 23 be withdrawn.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

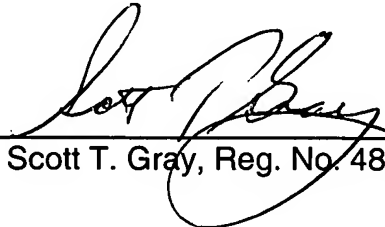
Applicant gratefully acknowledges the Office's statements that Claims 12, 28, 31 and 36 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. However, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 12, 28, 31 and 36 depend from independent claims that have been respectfully submitted above to be patentable over the cited references. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 12, 28, 31 and 36 are patentable as depending from patentable independent claims.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (314) 726-7525.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 5/31/05

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